

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5-6, 9, 11, 13-14, 30-35 and 37-38 are currently under consideration in the present application. Claims 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 21-29, 36 and 39-40 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. The claims have not been amended in this Response to the Office Action.

APPLICANTS' RECORD OF AN EXAMINER INTERVIEW

On February 28, 2008, Applicants' Counsel Lawrence E. Crowe, Examiner Marcus Menezes, and Mr. Menezes' Supervisor Examiner Sande discussed the Office Action dated November 30, 2007 during a telephone interview. The Applicants' Counsel greatly appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners Menezes and Sande during the telephone interview.

As a result of the interview, it was agreed that U.S. Patent No. 1,731,704 to Carr was silent with respect to specific limitations of both independent claim 3 and independent claim 30, from which all of the other claims depend. Specifically, it was agreed that Carr did not disclose that the stud B of Carr was connected to the threaded screw passing through the stud B as required by the limitations of claims 3 and 30 of the present application, and further did not disclose that applying a torque to the stud B as required by claim 3 would in any way be sufficient for threading the screw of Carr into the floor. It was further agreed that Carr would be removed as a reference for supporting any of the rejections under either 35 USC § 102 or 35 USC § 103.

It was also agreed that, as a result of removal of Carr as a reference, the Office Action does not provide proper support for a rejection of any of the claims currently under consideration.

It was further agreed that, procedurally, the Applicants would submit a Response to the Office Action traversing the rejection of all claims, and that the next communication from the Examiner would be either a Non-Final Office Action on new grounds not necessitated by any amendment by the Applicants, or a Notice of Allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claims 3, 9, 11 and 30-35 as being anticipated by Carr (US 1,731,704) is traversed.

Interview
record
okay.
- 4/28/2008
/MM/